Murkin memo Folder

Mr. Bishop 1-14-69

M. A. Jones

Long

MURKIN;
FORTHCOMING BOOK BY
WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE

William Bradford Huie is the author of two articles regarding James Earl Ray and the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr., which appeared in the November 12 and November 26, 1968, issues of "Look" magazine.

By memorandum dated January 3, 1969, Mr. Rosen advised Mr. DeLoach that--according to a Memphis, Tennessee, newspaper article--a book by Huie regarding the King murder is to be published in March, 1969, under the title of "They Slew the Dreamer."

RECENT ACTION:

Through Carroll B. Colby--author of a very favorable picture book concerning the FBI and a most reliable contact of ours in the New York publishing industry--we have learned today that Huie's book, "They Slew the Dreamer," will be published by the New American Library, Inc., in New York City. According to Colby, Huie's manuscript was offered to, and apparently rejected by, three orfour other publishers. The publication date for Huie's book is still in question, but it is not expected to come out until completion of Ray's trial.

RECOMMENDATION:

If approved, we will instruct the New York Office to make discreet arrangements to obtain a copy of Huie's book as soon as available.

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. McGowan

GWG:cle
(8)

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

1-3

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

MURKIN MEMO FOLDER

January 9, 1969

AIRTEL

To: Legat, Bonn

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

1 - Mr. Long
1 - Liaison (Cleared with SA Graham Day)

Enclosed are two true copies of an announcement made by one Joachim Joesten concerning his publication on James Earl Ray and the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The announcement indicates that the publication is available at a cost of $100 and the orders should be addressed to Joachim Joesten, Munich 13, Griegstr, 13, c/o Rahim, Germany. You should discreetly determine if this publication is available on a no cost basis, and if it is, you should obtain two copies of same for transmittal to the Bureau.

Bureau files indicate that Joesten was born in Germany in 1907, and naturalized as an American citizen in 1948. At hearing for his naturalization in 1947, Joesten reportedly identified himself as a "left-wing liberal" and a free-lance writer. He has written numerous books regarding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. In his books and other writings he has attacked President Lyndon B. Johnson, accusing Mr. Johnson of being involved in the President John F. Kennedy assassination. He has also bitterly attacked the FBI and the CIA. He currently resides in Germany and has been hospitalized in the past for mental illness.

Enclosures (2)
1 - Memphis (Enclosures - 2) (Information)

REL:dvj
(6)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO . . .

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

NOTE

See attached Departmental memorandum dated December 31, 1968. The Department has requested a copy of this publication for their investigative file. By this communication, we are instructing Legat Bonn to determine if a copy of the publication is available on a no cost bases and if it is, Legat should transmit two copies to usand one may be sent to the Department.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

TRUE COPY

Just published

$100 a copy
(one hundred US dollars)

The Greatest Police Fraud Ever

T H E J A M E S E A R L R A Y H O A X

Once again, the world is being fooled, deliberately and grossly, about the true background of a sensational murder and the real identity of the killer. And again - as in the closely related Kennedy Murder Fraud - the deception is wrought by the investigating authorities themselves.

Everything you have read in the papers about the way James Earl Ray allegedly escaped from prison, how he killed Dr. Martin Luther King, how he was identified as the slayer and how he was finally hunted down as a result of "crack international detective work" is false and fraudulent. The whole story is a hoax concocted by the FBI and executed with the help of other police authorities at home and abroad for the purpose of diverting attention from and shielding the real murderer of Dr. King, whose identity and whereabouts are well-known to the FBI.

Every aspect of this official fraud is thoroughly explored, and the whole gigantic swindle is ruthlessly exposed in the present report by

J O A C H I M J O E S T E N

the first of the Warren Report critics and the only writer who carried his exposure of the Kennedy Murder Fraud through to its bitter end. The report is based on a painstaking private investigation undertaken with the help of devoted friends in the USA, Canada, Britain and other countries concerned. Here are some of its highlights:

1 - The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was planned by a group of Southern politicians and businessmen affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan, the Minutemen and George Wallace's American Independent Party. Its purpose was to strike fear into the hearts of the black people and to deprive them of effective leadership.

2 - New Orleans, where the plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy had been hatched (in part, anyway) was also the focal point of the conspiracy against Dr. King - a glaring fact ignored by the FBI and glossed over in the press. for obvious reasons.

3 - In the early planning stage - well over a year before Dr. King was shot at Memphis - contact was established between the plotters and James Earl Ray who at the time was still an inmate of the Missouri State Penitentiary. Ray, a convict with a long criminal record, expressed willingness to do any kind of job expected of him for a suitable fee (agreement was reached on the basis of $ 12.000 to $ 16,000, according to performance.)

4 - Ray did not escape from prison; he was surreptitiously

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

let out with the consent of the Warden who went so far as to circulate to police authorities a false set of fingerprints designed to foil any chance recapture of the "fugitive."

5 - Ray was never considered for the sniper's part. After more than 15 years spent in prison, he would have been totally incapable of killing a man, at a distance of 205 feet, with a single well-placed rifle shot. Rather, his role was to be that of a decoy with instructions to plant false evidence, scatter about misleading clues and lay a false trail of flight in order to throw off potential pursuers of the real sniper. Unbeknown to him, of course, Ray had also been picked by the plotters as an ideal fall guy- for there is no more defenseless human being than an escaped convict - after he had given his performance as a decoy. It was the old Oswald story all over again, with slight variations.

6 - A key element of the stratagem was to create a fictitious double personality shered by Ray and his accomplace, the real sniper. They were non of similar appearance who studiously enhanced their likeness in looks, dress, speech/and behavior and carefully corrdinated their activities. They drove exactly the same make and model of cars, used the same driver's license (one the original, the other a duplicate) and, in the final stage of their adventure, traveled abroad on two copies of the same false passport.

7 - Dr. King was not shot from Mrs. Bessie Brower's flophouse window; instead, the fatal shot came from a Memphis replica of the famous grassy knoll of Dallas.

8 - After the shooting, Ray and his confederate; the real assassin, took off almost simultaneously in identical white Mustangs, but in different directions. While Ray drove to Atlanta, for his final performance as a decoy, the assassin headed for Milwaukee, for a reunion with his girl friend.

9 - The two men met again, shortly later, in Toronto where they shed their previous joint personality (Eric Starvo Galt) and adopted a new one (Ramon George Sneyd). With the help of the CIA, which had previously used the good services of Eric S. Galt (the real killer, not Ray) one passport in that name was obtained in Toronto and another shortly later in Lisbon.

10 - Early in the game, the FBI found out that there were two Eric Starvo Galts and that one of them was the excaped convict James Earl Ray. But when they learned the identity of the other - a veteran CIA operative who had also participated in the assassination of President John F.Kennedy-they were appalled. This man was taken; he enjoyed protection at the highest level. He could not be arrested, much less brought to trial, lest the truth about the Kennedy Murder Fraud come out into the open.

11 - So the tracks now were further blurred with the active help of the FBI, which gave chase only to Ray while aiding

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

his alter ego, the real assassin, to hide abroad. Fantistic? Maybe, but also the truth!

12 - The crowning glory of it all, however, was the almost simultaneous arrest of both Sneyds at London Airport on June 8, 1968, the first at 6:30 a.m. by design and the second 11:15 a.m. by accident, one arriving by plane from Lisbon and the other attempting to leave London on a Brussels-bound plane.

13 - Now Scotland Yard was in a real quandary, for the last thing the FBI wanted was to have two Sneyds delivered into its hands. So the two police agencies connived to hush up the truth about the double arrest and pretend that only one man - Ray - had been caught.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The Writings of Joachim Joesten

About the assassination of President John F. Kennedy

I. Trade Books

The Dark Side of Lyndon B. Johnson, 272 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay Ltd., London, September 1968	$10.00
How Kennedy was Killed, 192 pp., paperback Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, April 1968	$ 3.50
The Garrison Enquiry, 158 pp., paperback Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, October 1967	$ 3.00
Marina Oswald, 165 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, August 1967	$ 5.00
Oswald: The Truth, 372 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, July 19-7	$ 7.50
Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy? (rare book-out of print) Marzani & Munsell, Inc., New York, June 1964 The Merlin Press, London, January 1965	$10.00
Die Wahrheit uber den Kennedy-Mord (in German) 366 pp., cloth, Zurich, September 1966	$ 6.00
La verite sur le cas de Jack Ruby (in French) 176 pp., paperback (large format), Paris May 1967	$ 5.50

Note: Prices for the above trade books refer to signed copies which can be obtained only direct from the author.

II. Mimeographed publications, issued by the author himself

The Case Against Lyndon B. Johnson (2 vols.), 1967	$30.00
The Case Against the Kennedy Clan, May 1968	$15.00
The Biggest Lie Ever Told (four-part series, 1968-69)	$20.00
TRUTH LETTER, Biweekly, $45 a year, $25 six months enquire about details	

All prices in U.S. dollars

Address all orders to: Joachim Joesten, Munich 13, Griegstr, 13, c/o Rahim, Germany. If your order is not promptly acknowleaged, send follow-up letter to: Joachim Joesten, 87-70 173rd Street, Jamaica 11432, New York City, USA.

Ask for the printed 16-page catalogue "A List of Books by Joachim Joesten about the assassination of President Kennedy" in which the above books are [illegible]

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

TRUE COPY

Just published

$100 a copy
(one hundred US dollars)

The Greatest Police Fraud Ever

THE JAMES EARL RAY HOAX

Once again, the world is being fooled, deliberately and grossly, about the true background of a sensational murder and the real identity of the killer. And again - as in the closely related Kennedy Murder Fraud - the deception is wrought by the investigating authorities themselves.

Everything you have read in the papers about the way James Earl Ray allegedly ascaped from prison, how he killed Dr. Martin Luther King, how he was identified as the slayer and how he was finally hunted down as a result of "crack international detective work" is false and fraudulent. The whole story is a hoax concocted by the FBI and executed with the help of other police authorities at home and abroad for the purpose of diverting attention from and shielding the real murderer of Dr. King, whose identity and whereabouts are well-known to the FBI.

Every aspect of this official fraud is thoroughly explored, and the whole gigantic swindle is ruthlessly exposed in the present report by

JOACHIM JOESTEN

the first of the Warren Report critics and the only writer who carried his exposure of the Kennedy Murder Fraud through to its bitter end. The report is based on a painstaking private investigation undertaken with the help of devoted friends in the USA, Canada, Britain and other countries concerned. Here are some of its highlights:

1 - The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was planned by a group of Southern politicians and businessmen affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan, the Minutemen and George Wallace's American Independent Party. Its purpose was to strike fear into the hearts of the black people and to deprive them of effective leadership.

2 - New Orleans, where the plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy had been hatched (in part, anyway) was also the focal point of the conspiracy against Dr. King - a glaring fact ignored by the FBI and glossed over in the press. for obvious reasons.

3 - In the early planning stage - well over a year before Dr. King was shot at Memphis - contact was established between the plotters and James Earl Ray who at the time was still an inmate of the Missouri State Penitentiary. Ray, a convict with a long criminal record, expressed willingness to do any kind of job expected of him for a suitable fee (agreement was reached on the basis [illegible] according to [illegible].)

4 - Ray did not escape from prison; he was surreptitiously

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

let out with the consent of the Warden who went so far as to circulate to police authorities a false set of fingerprints designed to foil any chance recapture of the "fugitive."

5 - Ray was never considered for the sniper's part. After more than 15 years spent in prison, he would have been totally incapable of killing a man, at a distance of 205 feet, with a single well-placed rifle shot. Rather, his role was to be that of a decoy with instructions to plant false evidence, scatter about misleading clues and lay a false trail of flight in order to throw off potential pursuers of the real sniper. Unbeknown to him, of course, Ray had also been picked by the plotters as an ideal fall guy- for there is no more defenseless human being than an escaped convict - after he had given his performance as a decoy. It was the old Oswald story all over again, with slight variations.

6 - A key element of the stratagem was to create a fictitious double personality shered by Ray and his accomplace, the real sniper. They were non of similar appearance who studiously enhanced their likeness in looks, dress, speech/and behavior and carefully corrdinated their activities. They drove exactly the same make and model of cars, used the same driver's license (one the original, the other a duplicate) and, in the final stage of their adventure, traveled abroad on two copies of the same false passport.

7 - Dr. King was not shot from Mrs. Bessie Brower's flophouse window; instead, the fatal shot came from a Memphis replica of the famous grassy knoll of Dallas.

8 - After the shooting, Ray and his confederate; the real assassin, took off almost simultaneously in identical white Mustangs, but in different directions. While Ray drove to Atlanta, fo his final performance as a decoy, the assassin headed for Milwaukee, for a reunion with his girl friend.

9 - The two men met again, shortly later, in Toronto where they shed their previous joint personality (Eric Starvo Galt) and adopted a new one (Ramon George Sneyd). With the help of the CIA, which had previously used the good services of Eric S. Galt (the real killer, not Ray) one passport in that name was obtained in Toronto and another shortly later in Lisbon.

10 - Early in the game, the FBI found out that there were two Eric Starvo Galts and that one of them was the excaped convict James Earl Ray. But when they learned the identity of the other - a veteran CIA operative who had also participated in the assassination of President John F.Kennedy-they were appalled. This man was taken; he enjoyed protection at the highest level. He could not be arrested, much less brought to trial, lest the truth about the Kennedy Murder Fraud come out into the open.

11 - So the cracks now were sudden blurred with the active help of the FBI, which gave chase only to Ray while aiding

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

his alter ego, the real assassin, to hide abroad. Fantistic? Maybe, but also the truth!

12 - The crowning glory of it all, however, was the almost simultaneous arrest of both Sneyds at London Airport on June 8, 1968, the first at 6:30 a.m. by design and the second 11:15 a.m. by accident, one arriving by plane from Lisbon and the other attempting to leave London on a Brussels-bound plane.

13 - Now Scotland Yard was in a real quandary, for the last thing the FBI wanted was to have two Sneyds delivered into its hands. So the two police agencies connived to hush up the truth about the double arrest and pretend that only one man - Ray - had been caught.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The Writings of Joachim Joesten

About the assassination of President John F. Kennedy

I. Trade Books

The Dark Side of Lyndon B. Johnson, 272 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay Ltd., London, September 1968	$10.00
How Kennedy was Killed, 192 pp., paperback Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, April 1968	$ 3.50
The Garrison Enquiry, 158 pp., paperback Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, October 1967	$ 3.00
Marina Oswald, 165 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, August 1967	$ 5.00
Oswald: The Truth, 372 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, July 19-7	$ 7.50
Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy?(rare book-out of print) Marzani & Munsell, Inc., New York, June 1964 The Merlin Press, London, January 1965	$10.00
Die Wahrheit uber den Kennedy-Mord (in German) 366 pp., cloth, Zurich, September 1966	$ 6.00
La verite sur le cas de Jack Ruby (in French) 176 pp., paperback (large format), Paris May 1967	$ 5.50

Note: Prices for the above trade books refer to signed copies which can be obtained only direct from the author.

II. Mimeographed publications, issued by the author himself

The Case Against Lyndon B. Johnson (2 vols.), 1967	$30.00
The Case Against the Kennedy Clan, May 1968	$15.00
The Biggest Lie Ever Told (four-part series,1968-69)	$20.00
TRUTH LETTER, Biweekly, $45 a year, $25 six months enquire about details	

All prices in U.S. dollars

Address all orders to: Joachim Joesten, Munich 13, Griegstr, 13, c/o Rahim, Germany. If your order is not promptly acknowledged, send follow-up letter to: Joachim Joesten, 87-70 173rd Street, Jamaica 11432, New York City, USA.

Ask for the printed 16-page catalogue "A List of Books by Joachim [illegible] the assassination of [illegible]" in which the above books and pamphlets are described in detail.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

TRUE COPY

Just published

$100 a copy
(one hundred US dollars)

The Greatest Police Fraud Ever

T H E J A M E S E A R L R A Y H O A X

Once again, the world is being fooled, deliberately and grossly, about the true background of a sensational murder and the real identity of the killer. And again - as in the closely related Kennedy Murder Fraud - the deception is wrought by the investigating authorities themselves.

Everything you have read in the papers about the way James Earl Ray allegedly escaped from prison, how he killed Dr. Martin Luther King, how he was identified as the slayer and how he was finally hunted down as a result of "crack international detective work" is false and fraudulent. The whole story is a hoax concocted by the FBI and executed with the help of other police authorities at home and abroad for the purpose of diverting attention from and shielding the real murderer of Dr. King, whose identity and whereabouts are well-known to the FBI.

Every aspect of this official fraud is thoroughly explored, and the whole gigantic swindle is ruthlessly exposed in the present report by

J O A C H I M J O E S T E N

the first of the Warren Report critics and the only writer who carried his exposure of the Kennedy Murder Fraud through to its bitter end. The report is based on a painstaking private investigation undertaken with the help of devoted friends in the USA, Canada, Britain and other countries concerned. Here are some of its highlights:

1 - The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was planned by a group of Southern politicians and businessmen affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan, the Minutemen and George Wallace's American Independent Party. Its purpose was to strike fear into the hearts of the black people and to deprive them of effective leadership.

2 - New Orleans, where the plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy had been hatched (in part, anyway) was also the focal point of the conspiracy against Dr. King - a glaring fact ignored by the FBI and glossed over in the press. for obvious reasons.

3 - In the early planning stage - well over a year before Dr. King was shot at Memphis - contact was established between the plotters and James Earl Ray who at the time was still an inmate of the Missouri State Penitentiary. Ray, a convict with a long criminal record, expressed willingness to do any kind of job expected of him for a suitable fee (agreement was reached on the basis of $ 12,000

4 - Ray did not escape from prison; he was surreptitiously

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

let out with the consent of the Warden who went so far as to circulate to police authorities a false set of fingerprints designed to foil any chance recapture of the "fugitive."

5 - Ray was never considered for the sniper's part. After more than 15 years spent in prison, he would have been totally incapable of killing a man, at a distance of 205 feet, with a single well-placed rifle shot. Rather, his role was to be that of a decoy with instructions to plant false evidence, scatter about misleading clues and lay a false trail of flight in order to throw off potential pursuers of the real sniper. Unbeknown to him, of course, Ray had also been picked by the plotters as an ideal fall guy- for there is no more defenseless human being than an escaped convict - after he had given his performance as a decoy. It was the old Oswald story all over again, with slight variations.

6 - A key element of the stratagem was to create a fictitious double personality shered by Ray and his accomplace, the real sniper. They were non of similar appearance who studiously enhanced their likeness in looks, dress, speech/and behavior and carefully corrdinated their activities. They drove exactly the same make and model of cars, used the same driver's license (one the original, the other a duplicate) and, in the final stage of their adventure, traveled abroad on two copies of the same false passport.

7 - Dr. King was not shot from Mrs. Bessie Brower's flophouse window; instead, the fatal shot came from a Memphis replica of the famous grassy knoll of Dallas.

8 - After the shooting, Ray and his confederate; the real assassin, took off almost simultaneously in identical white Mustangs, but in different directions. While Ray drove to Atlanta, fo his final performance as a decoy, the assassin headed for Milwaukee, for a reunion with his girl friend.

9 - The two men met again, shortly later, in Toronto where they shed their previous joint personality (Eric Starvo Galt) and adopted a new one (Ramon George Sneyd). With the help of the CIA, which had previously used the good services of Eric S. Galt (the real killer, not Ray) one passport in that name was obtained in Toronto and another shortly later in Lisbon.

10 - Early in the game, the FBI found out that there were two Eric Starvo Galts and that one of them was the excaped convict James Earl Ray. But when they learned the identity of the other - a veteran CIA operative who had also participated in the assassination of President John F.Kennedy-they were appalled. This man was taken; he enjoyed protection at the highest level. He could not be arrested, much less brought to trial, lest the truth about the Kennedy Murder Fraud come out into the open.

11 - So the whole [illegible] active help of the FBI, which gave chase only to Ray while aiding

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

his alter ego, the real assassin, to hide abroad. Fantistic? Maybe, but also the truth!

12 - The crowning glory of it all, however, was the almost simultaneous arrest of both Sneyds at London Airport on June 8, 1968, the first at 6:30 a.m. by design and the second 11:15 a.m. by accident, one arriving by plane from Lisbon and the other attempting to leave London on a Brussels-bound plane.

13 - Now Scotland Yard was in a real quandary, for the last thing the FBI wanted was to have two Sneyds delivered into its hands. So the two police agencies connived to hush up the truth about the double arrest and pretend that only one man - Ray - had been caught.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The Writings of Joachim Joesten

About the assassination of President John F. Kennedy

I. Trade Books

The Dark Side of Lyndon B. Johnson, 272 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay Ltd., London, September 1968	$10.00
How Kennedy was Killed, 192 pp., paperback Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, April 1968	$ 3.50
The Garrison Enquiry, 158 pp., paperback Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, October 1967	$ 3.00
Marina Oswald, 165 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, August 1967	$ 5.00
Oswald: The Truth, 372 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, July 19-7	$ 7.50
Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy? (rare book-out of print) Marzani & Munsell, Inc., New York, June 1964 The Merlin Press, London, January 1965	$10.00
Die Wahrheit uber den Kennedy-Mord (in German) 366 pp., cloth, Zurich, September 1966	$ 6.00
La verite sur le cas de Jack Ruby (in French) 176 pp., paperback (large format), Paris May 1967	$ 5.50

Note: Prices for the above trade books refer to signed copies which can be obtained only direct from the author.

II. Mimeographed publications, issued by the author himself

The Case Against Lyndon B. Johnson (2 vols.), 1967	$30.00
The Case Against the Kennedy Clan, May 1968	$15.00
The Biggest Lie Ever Told (four-part series, 1968-69)	$20.00
TRUTH LETTER, Biweekly, $45 a year, $25 six months enquire about details	

All prices in U.S. dollars

Address all orders to: Joachim Joesten, Munich 13, Griegstr, 13, c/o Rahim, Germany. If your order is not promptly acknowledged, send follow-up letter to: Joachim Joesten, 87-70 173rd Street, Jamaica 11432, New York City, USA.

Ask for the printed 16-page catalogue "A List of Books by Joachim Joesten about the assassination of President Kennedy" in which the above books and pamphlets are described in detail.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

1-2

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27
5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

MURKIN MEMO Folder

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: January 3, 1969

FROM : A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan 1 - Mr. Bishop
(1) - Mr. Long 1 - Mr. Sullivan

SUBJECT: MURKIN

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

According to an article appearing in a Memphis newspaper, "Look" magazine will publish the third and final article on February 18, 1969, on the life of James Earl Ray. William Bradford Huie, author, who is writing the articles has decided to go ahead with the third article rather than wait until Ray's trial starts, which is scheduled for March 3, 1969.

According to this article, Huie states that the article will be published subject to the advice of counsel of Cowles Publishing Company (publishers of "Look") in view of the order of Judge W. Preston Battle concerning pretrial publicity. It is noted that the committee advising Judge Battle on restraint of pretrial publicity has told the judge Huie is "probably" in contempt of court for his two previous articles published in "Look" magazine, however, the judge has not held Huie in contempt.

The article further states that Huie's book on the King murder, to be entitled "They Slew the Dreamer," will be published in March. It is noted that the articles and the book are based on notes provided to Huie by Ray through Arthur J. Hanes, Ray's former attorney.

ACTION:

For information. You will be kept advised.

REL:jld
(8)

the New American Library, Inc.
1301 Ave of Am
OWEN of Dept
ADV. 1/7/69

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

1-2-69

AIRTEL AM

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

Enclosed are original and one copy of newspaper clipping in captioned matter.

3 BUREAU (Enc. 2)(AM)
1 MEMPHIS
RGJ:BN
(4)

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Last Ray Article Due In February

Huie Says Last Of Three Magazine Features Will Precede Murder Trial

Look magazine, which has published two articles based on information supplied by James Earl Ray, will publish a third and final article Feb. 18, it was learned last night.

William Bradford Huie, who is writing the articles, said at his home in Hartselle, Ala., the magazine has decided to go ahead with the third article Feb. 18 rather than wait until after Ray's trial starts.

Ray is scheduled to go on trial in Criminal Court here March 3 on a charge of murdering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. April 4.

"All that we know will be published, subject to the advice of counsel," Mr. Huie said. "Our attorney is John F. Harding, vice president and general counsel of the Cowles Publishing Co. (publishers of Look)."

A Memphis and Shelby County Bar Association committee advising Judge W. Preston Battle on restraint of pretrial publicity in the Ray case has told the judge Mr. Huie is "probably" in contempt of court for the two Ray articles Look already has published. However, the judge has not held Mr. Huie in contempt.

Mr. Huie's book on the King murder, to be entitled "They Slew the Dreamer," will be published in March. It will appear in paperback and stiff-cover editions simultaneously, Mr. Huie said. Both the book and the Look articles are based on installments of long-hand manuscript Ray sent to Mr. Huie from the Shelby County Jail by his former attorney, Arthur J. Hanes of Birmingham.

Ray has since replaced Mr. Hanes with Percy Foreman, a Houston attorney.

Mr. Huie returned Saturday from a week's trip retracing Ray's wanderings in Mexico from Oct. 6 to Nov. 14, 1967. Ray spent most of the time at two fashionable resorts, Puerto Vallarta and Acapulco, on the Pacific coast, according to Mr. Huie.

Mr. Huie said he will spend most of next week visiting the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City, from which Ray escaped in April 1967, and the Missouri Psychiatric Hospital at Fulton, where Ray was examined for possible psychosis.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 36

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 12-26-68

Edition:

Author: FRANK R. AHLGREN

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

[redacted]

12-31

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

January 6, 1969

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

An item appearing in a Memphis newspaper states that James Earl Ray may enter a plea of guilty to the state charge of murder. This is speculation on the newspaper's part.

The attached relates to an inquiry made to Mr. Phil M. Canale, State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, concerning the newspaper article. Hugh Stanton referred to, has been appointed by Judge W. Preston Battle as co-counsel for Ray. Trial scheduled on March 3, 1969 at Memphis.

You will be kept advised of pertinent developments.

REL:rl

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

1/2/69

Murkin
Memo
Folder

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed for the Bureau are 2 copies of an article captioned, "Ray Guilty Plea Is Considered," which appeared in the 1/1/69 edition of the "Commercial Appeal, a daily newspaper published at Memphis, Tenn.

State Attorney General PHIL A. CANALE, Memphis, advised that Mr. HUGH STANTON, the Public Defender who has been appointed subject's co-counsel, had asked him if he would accept a term of imprisonment rather than asking for the death penalty in return for a plea of guilty. Since this request had not originated with the subject RAY, Mr. CANALE advised Mr. STANTON that he would not commit himself. He suggested that Mr. STANTON discuss this with RAY and determine if RAY has any interest in pleading guilty.

Mr. CANALE said that Governor BUFORD ELLINGTON of Tennessee is strongly opposed to the death penalty, and even if RAY were sentenced to die in the electric chair, it is extremely doubtful that he would ever be executed. In view of this, Mr. CANALE tends to be willing to recommend a 99-year sentence in exchange for a plea of guilty.

It is noted that under Tennessee law all persons are eligible for parole after having served 30 consecutive years imprisonment. This is true regardless of the length of sentence imposed.

3 - Bureau (Encs. 2)
2 - Memphis

JCH:jap
(5)

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Mr. CANALE said he has no information to indicate that RAY has any intention of pleading builty, but he feels certain that the Public Defender will explain to RAY the advantages to be gained from such a guilty plea.

For the Bureau's information, it is the trial jury and not the Judge that determines the sentence imposed under Tennessee law. Even if RAY pleads guilty, it will be necessary for the State to present enough of its case to prove to the jury that RAY's crime was first degree murder and to insure that the jury will go along with the prosecutor's recommendation as to the term of imprisonment.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Guilty Plea Is Considered

Stanton And Foreman Talk; Discussion Refused By Attorney General

A possible guilty plea for James Earl Ray, charged with the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., has been discussed between defense counsel and taken up with the attorney general's office, it was learned last night.

Public Defender Hugh Stanton, co-defense counsel with Houston attorney Percy Foreman, confirmed that the two have discussed the possibility of a guilty plea for their 42-year-old client.

Mr. Stanton did not say whether a possible plea of guilty has been taken up with Ray himself in his suite at the Shelby County Jail. Ray is scheduled to go on trial March 3 before Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle.

The attorney general's office, it was learned, refused to discuss a guilty plea for Ray as a mere possibility. It is believed to have refused to discuss the matter short of a specific offer to plead guilty.

Technically, Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale could refuse to agree to a guilty plea on any terms, but Judge Battle or the jury could overrule him.

Even in the event of a guilty plea, there could be a trial, with full presentation of the state's evidence, if the prosecution insisted on it as necessary to assure what it considered a severe enough sentence.

In Tennessee the jury, not the judge, fixes the sentence. The jury, even when there is a guilty plea, hears either the full evidence or a condensed version "stipulated to" by prosecution and defense.

When convicted of armed robbery in St. Louis nine years ago Ray refused advice of counsel to plead guilty and was sentenced to 20 years in state prison.

"A co-defendant who pleaded guilty got a much shorter sentence," Richard D. Schrieber, defense counsel in the case, told The Commercial Appeal by telephone last night. It is this sentence Ray was serving when he escaped from the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City April 23, 1967.

A possible clue as to how Ray might look on a guilty plea is contained in the longhand manuscript he prepared for free lance writer William Bradford Huie to use in a series of articles for Look magazine. Mr. Huie says Ray's account leaves no doubt he was at least involved in a conspiracy to kill Dr. King.

Mr. Canale has said he will confer with Mr. Huie as to the possible use of the Ray manuscript as evidence in the trial.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1
"The Commercial Appeal"
Memphis, Tenn.

Date: 1-1-69
Edition: FINAL
Author:
Editor: GORDON HANNA
Title: MURKIN

Character:
or CR
Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☒ Being Investigated

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

January 6, 1969

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

An item appearing in a Memphis newspaper states that James Earl Ray may enter a plea of guilty to the state charge of murder. This is speculation on the newspaper's part.

The attached relates to an inquiry made to Mr. Phil M. Canale, State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, concerning the newspaper article. Hugh Stanton referred to, has been appointed by Judge W. Preston Battle as co-counsel for Ray. Trial scheduled on March 3, 1969 at Memphis.

You will be kept advised of pertinent developments.

REL:rl

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 1/2/69

Transmit the following in _____ (Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____ (Priority)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed for the Bureau are 2 copies of an article captioned, "Ray Guilty Plea Is Considered," which appeared in the 1/1/69 edition of the "Commercial Appeal, a daily newspaper published at Memphis, Tenn.

State Attorney General PHIL A. CANALE, Memphis, advised that Mr. HUGH STANTON, the Public Defender who has been appointed subject's co-counsel, had asked him if he would accept a term of imprisonment rather than asking for the death penalty in return for a plea of guilty. Since this request had not originated with the subject RAY, Mr. CANALE advised Mr. STANTON that he would not commit himself. He suggested that Mr. STANTON discuss this with RAY and determine if RAY has any interest in pleading guilty.

Mr. CANALE said that Governor BUFORD ELLINGTON of Tennessee is strongly opposed to the death penalty, and even if RAY were sentenced to die in the electric chair, it is extremely doubtful that he would ever be executed. In view of this, Mr. CANALE tends to be willing to recommend a 99-year sentence in exchange for a plea of guilty.

It is noted that under Tennessee law all persons are eligible for parole after having served 30 consecutive years imprisonment. This is true regardless of the length of sentence imposed.

Airtel
Teletype 2 - ENCLOSURE
A.M. (3) - Bureau (Encs. 2)
2 - Memphis
A.M.S.D.
JCH:jap
Spec. (5).

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
F B I
JAN 3 8 12 PM '69

C. C. Bishop

Registered _____
Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Mr. CANALE said he has no information to indicate that RAY has any intention of pleading builty, but he feels certain that the Public Defender will explain to RAY the advantages to be gained from such a guilty plea.

For the Bureau's information, it is the trial jury and not the Judge that determines the sentence imposed under Tennessee law. Even if RAY pleads guilty, it will be necessary for the State to present enough of its case to prove to the jury that RAY's crime was first degree murder and to insure that the jury will go along with the prosecutor's recommendation as to the term of imprisonment.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Guilty Plea Is Considered

Stanton And Foreman Talk; Discussion Refused By Attorney General

A possible guilty plea for James Earl Ray, charged with the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., has been discussed between defense counsel and taken up with the attorney general's office, it was learned last night.

Public Defender Hugh Stanton, co-defense counsel with Houston attorney Percy Foreman, confirmed that the two have discussed the possibility of a guilty plea for their 42-year-old client.

Mr. Stanton did not say whether a possible plea of guilty has been taken up with Ray himself in his suite at the Shelby County Jail. Ray is scheduled to go on trial March 3 before Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle.

The attorney general's office, it was learned, refused to discuss a guilty plea for Ray as a mere possibility. It is believed to have refused to discuss the matter short of a specific offer to plead guilty.

Technically, Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale could refuse to agree to a guilty plea on any terms, but Judge Battle or the jury could overrule him.

Even in the event of a guilty plea, there could be a trial, with full presentation of the state's evidence, if the prosecution insisted on it as necessary to assure what it considered a severe enough sentence.

In Tennessee the jury, not the judge, fixes the sentence. The jury, even when there is a guilty plea, hears either the full evidence or a condensed version "stipulated to" by prosecution and defense.

When convicted of armed robbery in St. Louis nine years ago Ray refused advice of counsel to plead guilty and was sentenced to 20 years in state prison.

"A co-defendant who pleaded guilty got a much shorter sentence," Richard D. Schrieber, defense counsel in the case, told The Commercial Appeal by telephone last night. It is this sentence Ray was serving when he escaped from the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City April 23, 1967.

A possible clue as to how Ray might look on a guilty plea is contained in the longhand manuscript he prepared for free lance writer William Bradford Huie to use in a series of articles for Look magazine. Mr. Huie says Ray's account leaves no doubt he was at least involved in a conspiracy to kill Dr. King.

Mr. Canale has said he will confer with Mr. Huie as to the possible use of the Ray manuscript as evidence in the trial.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1
"The Commercial Appeal"
Memphis, Tennessee

Date: 1-1-69
Edition: FINAL
Author:
Editor: GORDON HANNA
Title: MURKIN

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

[X] Being Investigated

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

12-31

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

January 7, 1969

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Department in the attached transmitted to us an announcement of a publication written by Joachim Joesten regarding James Earl Ray and the King Assassination. The Department requests that we obtain a copy of this publication for their investigative file.

Bureau files indicate that Joesten was born in Germany in 1907, and naturalized as an American citizen in 1948. At hearings for his naturalization in 1947, Joesten reportedly identified himself as a "left-wing liberal" and a free-lance writer. He has written numerous books regarding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. In his books and other writings he has attacked President Lyndon B. Johnson, accusing Mr. Johnson of being involved in the President John F. Kennedy assassination. He has also bitterly attacked the FBI and the CIA. He currently resides in Germany and has been hospitalized in the past for mental illness.

It is noted that the announcement indicates the publication is available at a cost of $100. This was brought to the attention of the Dept., and they advised the publication should be obtained on a no cost basis only. Legat Bonn is being requested to discreetly determine if a copy of this publication is available on a no cost basis.

REL:jms

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Mark
Return to
Mr Long
2260
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Foster

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

December 31, 1968

SJP:DRO:ash
DJ 144-72-662
41-157-147

Stephen J. Pollak
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King

Attached herewith is a communication received by this Department. It may be that your Bureau has already received this information.

Although this appears on its face to be somewhat less than reliable information, I think our investigative files should contain a copy of the information in the attachment. Please secure such a copy.

Attachment

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

TRUE COPY

Just published ● ● $100 a copy (one hundred US dollars)

The Greatest Police Fraud Ever

THE JAMES EARL RAY HOAX

Once again, the world is being fooled, deliberately and grossly, about the true background of a sensational murder and the real identity of the killer. And again - as in the closely related Kennedy Murder Fraud - the deception is wrought by the investigating authorities themselves.

Everything you have read in the papers about the way James Earl Ray allegedly escaped from prison, how he killed Dr. Martin Luther King, how he was identified as the slayer and how he was finally hunted down as a result of "crack international detective work" is false and fraudulent. The whole story is a hoax concocted by the FBI and executed with the help of other police authorities at home and abroad for the purpose of diverting attention from and shielding the real murderer of Dr. King, whose identity and whereabouts are well-known to the FBI.

Every aspect of this official fraud is thoroughly explored, and the whole gigantic swindle is ruthlessly exposed in the present report by

J O A C H I M J O E S T E N

the first of the Warren Report critics and the only writer who carried his exposure of the Kennedy Murder Fraud through to its bitter end. The report is based on a painstaking private investigation undertaken with the help of devoted friends in the USA, Canada, Britain and other countries concerned. Here are some of its highlights:

1 - The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was planned by a group of Southern politicians and businessmen affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan, the Minutemen and George Wallace's American Independent Party. Its purpose was to strike fear into the hearts of the black people and to deprive them of effective leadership.

2 - New Orleans, where the plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy had been hatched (in part, anyway) was also the focal point of the conspiracy against Dr. King - a glaring fact ignored by the FBI and glossed over in the press. for obvious reasons.

3 - In the early planning stage - well over a year before Dr. King was shot at Memphis - contact was established between the plotters and James Earl Ray who at the time was still an inmate of the Missouri State Penitentiary. Ray, a convict with a long criminal record, expressed willingness to do any kind of job expected of him for a suitable fee (agreement was reached on the basis of $ 12,000 to $ 15,000 according to performance).

4 - Ray did not escape from prison; he was surreptitiously

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

let out with the consent of the Warden who went so far as to circulate to police authorities a false set of fingerprints designed to foil any chance recapture of the "fugitive."

5 - Ray was never considered for the sniper's part. After more than 15 years spent in prison, he would have been totally incapable of killing a man, at a distance of 205 feet, with a single well-placed rifle shot. Rather, his role was to be that of a decoy with instructions to plant false evidence, scatter about misleading clues and lay a false trail of flight in order to throw off potential pursuers of the real sniper. Unbeknown to him, of course, Ray had also been picked by the plotters as an ideal fall guy- for there is no more defenseless human being than an escaped convict - after he had given his performance as a decoy. It was the old Oswald story all over again, with slight variations.

6 - A key element of the stratagem was to create a fictitious double personality shered by Ray and his accomplace, the real sniper. They were non of similar appearance who studiously enhanced their likeness in looks, dress, speech/and behavior and carefully corrdinated their activities. They drove exactly the same make and model of cars, used the same driver's license (one the original, the other a duplicate) and, in the final stage of their adventure, traveled abroad on two copies of the same false passport.

7 - Dr. King was not shot from Mrs. Bessie Brower's flophouse window; instead, the fatal shot came from a Memphis replica of the famous grassy knoll of Dallas.

8 - After the shooting, Ray and his confederate; the real assassin, took off almost simultaneously in identical white Mustangs, but in different directions. While Ray drove to Atlanta, fo: his final performance as a decoy, the assassin headed for Milwaukee, for a reunion with his girl friend.

9 - The two men met again, shortly later, in Toronto where they shed their previous joint personality (Eric Starvo Galt) and adopted a new one (Ramon George Sneyd). With the help of the CIA, which had previously used the good services of Eric S. Galt (the real killer, not Ray) one passport in that name was obtained in Toronto and another shortly later in Lisbon.

10 - Early in the game, the FBI found out that there were two Eric Starvo Galts and that one of them was the excaped convict James Earl Ray. But when they learned the identity of the other - a veteran CIA operative who had also participated in the assassination of President John F.Kennedy-they were appalled. This man was taken; he enjoyed protection at the highest level. He could not be arrested, much less brought to trial, lest the truth about the Kennedy Murder Fraud come out into the open.

11 - So the tracks now were furhter blurred with the active help of the FBI, which gave chase only to [illegible]

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

his alter ego, the real assassin, to hide abroad. Fantistic? Maybe, but also the truth!

12 - The crowning glory of it all, however, was the almost simultaneous arrest of both Sneyds at London Airport on June 8, 1968, the first at 6:30 a.m. by design and the second 11:15 a.m. by accident, one arriving by plane from Lisbon and the other attempting to leave London on a Brussels-bound plane.

13 - Now Scotland Yard was in a real quandary, for the last thing the FBI wanted was to have two Sneyds delivered into its hands. So the two police agencies connived to hush up the truth about the double arrest and pretend that only one man - Ray - had been caught.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

77-41-15171

Just published

$ 100 a copy
(one hundred US dollars)

The Greatest Police Fraud Ever

THE JAMES EARL RAY HOAX

Once again, the world is being fooled, deliberately and grossly, about the true background of a sensational murder and the real identity of the killer. And again - as in the closely related Kennedy Murder Fraud - the deception is wrought by the investigating authorities themselves.

Everything you have read in the papers about the way James Earl Ray allegedly escaped from prison, how he killed Dr. Martin Luther King, how he was identified as the slayer and how he was finally hunted down as a result of "crack international detective work" is false and fraudulent. The whole story is a hoax concocted by the FBI and executed with the help of other police authorities at home and abroad for the purpose of diverting attention from and shielding the real murderer of Dr. King, whose identity and whereabouts are well-known to the FBI.

Every aspect of this official fraud is thoroughly explored, and the whole gigantic swindle is ruthlessly exposed in the present report by

JOACHIM JOESTEN

the first of the Warren Report critics and the only writer who carried his exposure of the Kennedy Murder Fraud through to its bitter end. The report is based on a painstaking private investigation undertaken with the help of devoted friends in the USA, Canada, Britain and other countries concerned. Here are some of its highlights:

1 - The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was planned by a group of Southern politicians and businessmen affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan, the Minutemen and George Wallace's dwindled Independent Party. Its purpose was to strike fear into the hearts of the Black people and to deprive them of effective leadership.

2 - New Orleans, where the plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy had been hatched (in part, anyway) was also the focal point of the conspiracy against Dr. King - a circumstance left ignored by the FBI and glossed over in the press, for obvious reasons.

3 - In the early planning stage - well over a year before Dr. King was shot at Memphis - contact was established between the plotters and James Earl Ray, who at the time was still an inmate of the Missouri State Penitentiary. Ray, a convict with a long criminal record, was willing enough to do any kind of job expected of him for a suitable fee (agreement was reached on the basis of $ 12,000 to $ 25,000, according to performance.)

4 - Ray did not escape from prison; he was surreptitiously let out with the consent of the Warden who went so far as to slip forged to police authorities a false set of fingerprints [illegible]

[illegible] - 22 - 66
[illegible] DISTRICT
11 DEC 17 1968 9

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

5 - Ray [illegible] considered for the sniper's part. After more than 15 years spent in prison, he would have been totally incapable of killing a man, at a distance of 265 feet, with a single well-placed rifle shot. Rather, his role was to be that of a decoy with instructions to plant false evidence, scatter about misleading clues and lay a false trail of flight in order to throw off potential pursuers of the real sniper. Unbeknown to him, of course, Ray had also been picked by the plotters as an ideal fall guy - for there is no more defenseless human being than an escaped convict-- after he had given his performance as a decoy. It was the old Oswald story all over again, with slight variations.

6 - A key element of the strategem was to create a Hitchcock double personality shared by Ray and his accomplice, the real sniper. They were men of similar appearance who studiously enhanced their likeness in looks, dress, speech and behavior and carefully coordinated their activities. They drove exactly the same make and model of cars, used the same duplicate licenses (one the original, the other a duplicate) and, in the final stage of their adventure, traveled abroad on two copies of the same false passport.

7 - Dr. King was not shot from Mrs. Bessie Brewer's Rhodesian window; instead, the fatal shot came from a Memphis duplicate of the famous grassy knoll of Dallas.

8 - After the shooting, Ray and his confederate, the real assassin, took off almost simultaneously in identical white Mustangs, but in different directions. While Ray drove to Atlanta, for his final performance as a decoy, the assassin headed for Milwaukee, for a reunion with his girl friend.

9 - The two men met again, shortly later, in Toronto where they shed their previous joint personality (Eric Starvo Galt) and adopted a new one: (James George Ray). With the help of the CIA, which had previously used the good services of Eric S. Galt (the real killer, not Ray) our passport in that name was obtained in Toronto and another shortly later in Lisbon.

10 - Early in the game, the FBI found out that there were two male Starvo Galts and that one of them was the accepted convict James Earl Ray. But when they learned the identity of the other - a notorious CIA operative who had also participated in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy - they were appalled. Eric Ray was taboo; he enjoyed protection at the highest level. He could not be arrested, much less brought to trial, lest the truth about the Kennedy Murder Plot come out into the open.

11 - So the tracks now were further blurred with the active help of the FBI, which gave chase only to Ray while aiding his alter ego, the real assassin, to his ahead. Fantastic! Maybe, but also the truth.

12 - The crowning glory of it all, however, was the airport shuttle-escape ruse of both Starvo at London Airport on June 8, 1968, the first at 6:30 a.m. by design and the second at 11:15 a.m. by accident, one crossing by plane over Lisbon and the other attempting to leave London on a Brussels-bound plane.

13 - Now Scotland Yard was in a real quandary, for the life of the FBI trusted man was to have two Starvo's delivered into its hands. So the two police agencies combined to "tuck up the truth about the family" and pretend that only one man - Ray - had been caught.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The Writings of Joachim Joesten

About the assassination of President John F. Kennedy

I. Trade Books

The Dark Side of Lyndon B. Johnson, 272 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay Ltd., London, September 1968	$10.00
How Kennedy was Killed, 192 pp., paperback Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, April 1968	$ 3.50
The Garrison Enquiry, 158 pp., paperback Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, October 1967	$ 3.00
Marina Oswald, 165 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, August 1967	$ 5.00
Oswald: The Truth, 372 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, July 19-7	$ 7.50
Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy? (rare book-out of print) Marzani & Munsell, Inc., New York, June 1964 The Merlin Press, London, January 1965	$10.00
Die Wahrheit uber den Kennedy-Mord (in German) 366 pp., cloth, Zurich, September 1966	$ 6.00
La verite sur le cas de Jack Ruby (in French) 176 pp., paperback (large format), Paris May 1967	$ 5.50

Note: Prices for the above trade books refer to signed copies which can be obtained only direct from the author.

II. Mimeographed publications, issued by the author himself

The Case Against Lyndon B. Johnson (2 vols.), 1967	$30.00
The Case Against the Kennedy Clan, May 1968	$15.00
The Biggest Lie Ever Told (four-part series, 1968-69)	$20.00
TRUTH LETTER, Biweekly, $45 a year, $25 six months enquire about details	

All prices in U.S. dollars

Address all orders to: Joachim Joesten, Munich 13, Griegstr, 13, c/o Rahim, Germany. If your order is not promptly acknowledged, send follow-up letter to: Joachim Joesten, 87-70 173rd Street, Jamaica 11432, New York City, USA.

Ask for the printed 16-page catalogue "A List of Books by Joachim Joesten about the assassination of President Kennedy" in which the above books and pamphlets are described in detail.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

January 7, 1969 [redacted]

GENERAL INVESTIGATIV[redacted]IVISION

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Department in the attached transmitted to us an announcement of a publication written by Joachim Joesten regarding James Earl Ray and the King Assassination. The Department requests that we obtain a copy of this publication for their investigative file.

Bureau files indicate that Joesten was born in Germany in 1907, and naturalized as an American citizen in 1948. At hearings for his naturalization in 1947, Joesten reportedly identified himself as a "left-wing liberal" and a free-lance writer. He has written numerous books regarding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. In his books and other writings he has attacked President Lyndon B. Johnson, accusing Mr. Johnson of being involved in the President John F. Kennedy assassination. He has also bitterly attacked the FBI and the CIA. He currently resides in Germany and has been hospitalized in the past for mental illness.

It is noted that the announcement indicates the publication is available at a cost of $100. This was brought to the attention of the Dept., and they advised the publication should be obtained on a no cost basis only. Legat Bonn is being requested to discreetly determine if a copy of this publication is available on a no cost basis.

REL:jms

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Form DJ-150
(Ed. 4-26-65)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: December 31, 1968

SJP:DRO:ash
DJ 144-72-662
41-157-147

FROM : Stephen J. Pollak
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

SUBJECT: Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King

Attached herewith is a communication received by this Department. It may be that your Bureau has already received this information.

Although this appears on its face to be somewhat less than reliable information, I think our investigative files should contain a copy of the information in the attachment. Please secure such a copy.

Attachment

1 ENCLOSURE

FILED IN DRO

10 JAN 7 1969

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

TRUE COPY

Just published [redacted] [redacted]e hundred US dollars)

$100 a copy

The Greatest Police Fraud Ever

T H E J A M E S E A R L R A Y H O A X

Once again, the world is being fooled, deliberately and grossly, about the true background of a sensational murder and the real identity of the killer. And again - as in the closely related Kennedy Murder Fraud - the deception is wrought by the investigating authorities themselves.

Everything you have read in the papers about the way James Earl Ray allegedly ascaped from prison, how he killed Dr. Martin Luther King, how he was identified as the slayer and how he was finally hunted down as a result of "crack international detective work" is false and fraudulent. The whole story is a hoax concocted by the FBI and executed with the help of other police authorities at home and abroad for the purpose of diverting attention from and shielding the real murderer of Dr. King, whose identity and whereabouts are well-known to the FBI.

Every aspect of this official fraud is thoroughly explored, and the whole gigantic swindle is ruthlessly exposed in the present report by

J O A C H I M J O E S T E N

the first of the Warren Report critics and the only writer who carried his exposure of the Kennedy Murder Fraud through to its bitter end. The report is based on a painstaking private investigation undertaken with the help of devoted friends in the USA, Canada, Britain and other countries concerned. Here are some of its highlights:

1 - The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was planned by a group of Southern politicians and businessmen affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan, the Minutemen and George Wallace's American Independent Party. Its purpose was to strike fear into the hearts of the black people and to deprive them of effective leadership.

2 - New Orleans, where the plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy had been hatched (in part, anyway) was also the focal point of the conspiracy against Dr. King - a glaring fact ignored by the FBI and glossed over in the press. for obvious reasons.

3 - In the early planning stage - well over a year before Dr. King was shot at Memphis - contact was established between the plotters and James Earl Ray who at the time was still an inmate of the Missouri State Penitentiary. Ray, a convict with a long criminal record, expressed willingness to do any kind of job expected of him for a suitable fee (agreement was reached on the basis of $ 12,000 to $ 15,000, according to performance.)

4 - Ray did not escape from prison; he was surreptitiously

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

let out with the consent of the Warden who went so far as to circulate to police authorities a false set of fingerprints designed to foil any chance recapture of the "fugitive."

5 - Ray was never considered for the sniper's part. After more than 15 years spent in prison, he would have been totally incapable of killing a man, at a distance of 205 feet, with a single well-placed rifle shot. Rather, his role was to be that of a decoy with instructions to plant false evidence, scatter about misleading clues and lay a false trail of flight in order to throw off potential pursuers of the real sniper. Unbeknown to him, of course, Ray had also been picked by the plotters as an ideal fall guy- for there is no more defenseless human being than an escaped convict - after he had given his performance as a decoy. It was the old Oswald story all over again, with slight variations.

6 - A key element of the stratagem was to create a fictitious double personality shered by Ray and his accomplace, the real sniper. They were non of similar appearance who studiously enhanced their likeness in looks, dress, speech/and behavior and carefully corrdinated their activities. They drove exactly the same make and model of cars, used the same driver's license (one the original, the other a duplicate) and, in the final stage of their adventure, traveled abroad on two copies of the same false passport.

7 - Dr. King was not shot from Mrs. Bessie Brower's flophouse window; instead, the fatal shot came from a Memphis replica of the famous grassy knoll of Dallas.

8 - After the shooting, Ray and his confederate; the real assassin, took off almost simultaneously in identical white Mustangs, but in different directions. While Ray drove to Atlanta, fo his final performance as a decoy, the assassin headed for Milwaukee, for a reunion with his girl friend.

9 - The two men met again, shortly later, in Toronto where they shed their previous joint personality (Eric Starvo Galt) and adopted a new one (Ramon George Sneyd). With the help of the CIA, which had previously used the good services of Eric S. Galt (the real killer, not Ray) one passport in that name was obtained in Toronto and another shortly later in Lisbon.

10 - Early in the game, the FBI found out that there were two Eric Starvo Galts and that one of them was the excaped convict James Earl Ray. But when they learned the identity of the other - a veteran CIA operative who had also participated in the assassintion of President John F.Kennedy-they were appalled. This man was taken; he enjoyed protection at the highest level. He could not be arrested, much less brought to trial, lest the truth about the Kennedy Murder Fraud come out into the open.

11 - So the tracks now were furhter blurred with the [illegible] of the FBI, [illegible]

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

his alter ego, the real assassin, to hide abroad. Fantistic? Maybe, but also the truth!

12 - The crowning glory of it all, however, was the almost simultaneous arrest of both Sneyds at London Airport on June 8, 1968, the first at 6:30 a.m. by design and the second 11:15 a.m. by accident, one arriving by plane from Lisbon and the other attempting to leave London on a Brussels-bound plane.

13 - Now Scotland Yard was in a real quandary, for the last thing the FBI wanted was to have two Sneyds delivered into its hands. So the two police agencies connived to hush up the truth about the double arrest and pretend that only one man - Ray - had been caught.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

#41-1371-1X1

Just published

$ 100 a copy
(one hundred US dollars)

The Greatest Police Fraud Ever

THE JAMES EARL RAY HOAX

Once again, the world is being fooled, deliberately and grossly, about the true background of a sensational murder and the real identity of the killer. And again - as in the closely related Kennedy Murder Fraud - the deception is wrought by the investigating authorities themselves.

Everything you have read in the papers about the way James Earl Ray allegedly escaped from prison, how he killed Dr. Martin Luther King, how he was identified as the slayer and how he was finally hunted down as a result of "crack international detective work" is false and fraudulent. The whole story is a hoax concocted by the FBI and executed with the help of other police authorities at home and abroad for the purpose of diverting attention from and shielding the real murderer of Dr. King, whose identity and whereabouts are well-known to the FBI.

Every aspect of this official fraud is thoroughly explored, and the whole gigantic Swindle is ruthlessly exposed in the present report by

JOACHIM JOESTEN

the first of the Warren Report critics and the only writer who carried his exposure of the Kennedy Murder Fraud through to its bitter end. The report is based on a painstaking private investigation undertaken with the help of devoted friends in the USA, Canada, Britain and other countries concerned. Here are some of its highlights:

1 - The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was planned by a group of Southern politicians and businessmen affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan, the Minutemen and George Wallace's Dixiecrat Independent Party. Its purpose was to strike fear into the hearts of the black people and to deprive them of effective leadership.

2 - New Orleans, where the plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy had been hatched (in part, anyway) was also the focal point of the conspiracy against Dr. King - a glaring fact ignored by the FBI and glossed over in the press, for obvious reasons.

3 - In the early planning stage - well over a year before Dr. King was shot at Memphis - contact was established between the plotters and James Earl Ray, who at the time was still an inmate of the Missouri State Penitentiary. Ray, a convict with a long criminal record, eager and willing to do any kind of job expected of him for a substantial fee (agreement was reached on the basis of $ 12,000 to $ 25,000, according to performance.)

4 - Ray did not escape from prison; he was surreptitiously let out with the consent of the Warden who went so far as to provide to police authorities a false set of fingerprints developed to fit [illegible]

DEC 17 1969

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

5 - Ray was never considered for the sniper's part. After more than 15 years spent in prison, he would have been totally incapable of killing a man, at a distance of 205 feet, with a single well-placed rifle shot. Rather, his role was to be that of a decoy with instructions to plant false evidence, scatter about misleading clues and lay a false trail of flight in order to throw off potential pursuers of the real sniper. Unbeknown to him, of course, Ray had also been picked by the plotters as an ideal built guy - for there is no more defenseless human being than an escaped convict after he has given his performance as a decoy. It was the old Oswald story all over again, with slight variations.

6 - A key element of the stratagem was to create a Mexican double personality shared by Ray and his accomplice, the real sniper. They were men of similar appearance who studiously enhanced their likeness in looks, dress, speech and behavior and carefully coordinated their activities. They drove exactly the same make and model of cars, used the same Identification (of the original, the other a duplicate) and, in the final stage of their adventure, traveled abroad on two copies of the same false passport.

7 - Dr. King was not shot from Mrs. Brewer's Bluebonnet Motel window; instead, the fatal shot came from a Memphis replica of the famous grassy knoll of Dallas.

8 - After the shooting, Ray and his confederate; the real sniper, took off almost simultaneously in identical white Mustangs, but in different directions. While Ray drove to Atlanta, for his final performance as a decoy, the assassin headed for Milwaukee, for a reunion with his girl friend.

9 - The two men met again, shortly later, in Toronto where they shed their previous joint personality (Eric Starvo Galt) and adopted a new one (Ramon George Sneyd). With the help of the CIA, which had previously used the good services of Eric S. Galt (the real killer, not Ray) one passport in that name was obtained in Toronto and another shortly later in Lisbon.

10 - Finally in the game, the FBI found out that there were two Eric Starvo Galts and that one of them was the accepted convict James Earl Ray. But what they learned of the identity of the other - a veteran CIA operative who had also participated in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy - they were appalled. That man was taboo; he enjoyed protection at the highest level. He could not be arrested, much less brought to trial. Just the truth about the Kennedy murder threat core out into the open.

11 - So the tracks now were further blurred with the active help of the CIA, which gave chase only to Ray while aiding his other man, the real assassin, to hide abroad. Fantastic lengths, but also its truth.

12 - The crowning glory of it all, however, was the almost simultaneous arrest of both Sneyds at London Airport on June 8, 1967, the first at 6:25 a.m. by Scotch and the second at 11:15 a.m. by accident, one resulting by plans from Lisbon and the other attempting to leave London on a Brussels-bound plane.

13 - New Scotland Yard was in a real quandary, for the law which the FBI wanted was to have two Sneyds delivered into its hands. So the two police agencies conferred together and the truth about the double arrest was permitted that only one man - Ray - had been caught.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The Writings of Joachim Joesten

About the assassination of President John F. Kennedy

I. Trade Books

The Dark Side of Lyndon B. Johnson, 272 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay Ltd., London, September 1968	$10.00
How Kennedy was Killed, 192 pp., paperback Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, April 1968	$ 3.50
The Garrison Enquiry, 158 pp., paperback Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, October 1967	$ 3.00
Marina Oswald, 165 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, August 1967	$ 5.00
Oswald: The Truth, 372 pp., cloth Peter Dawnay, Ltd., London, July 19-7	$ 7.50
Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy?(rare book-out of print) Marzani & Munsell, Inc., New York, June 1964 The Merlin Press, London, January 1965	$10.00
Die Wahrheit uber den Kennedy-Mord (in German) 366 pp., cloth, Zurich, September 1966	$ 6.00
La verite sur le cas de Jack Ruby (in French) 176 pp., paperback (large format), Paris May 1967	$ 5.50

Note: Prices for the above trade books refer to signed copies which can be obtained only direct from the author.

II. Mimeographed publications, issued by the author himself

The Case Against Lyndon B. Johnson (2 vols.), 1967	$30.00
The Case Against the Kennedy Clan, May 1968	$15.00
The Biggest Lie Ever Told (four-part series,1968-69)	$20.00
TRUTH LETTER, Biweekly, $45 a year, $25 six months enquire about details	

All prices in U.S. dollars

Address all orders to: Joachim Joesten, Munich 13, Griegstr, 13, c/o Rahim, Germany. If your order is not promptly acknowledged, send follow-up letter to: Joachim Joesten, 87-70 173rd Street, Jamaica 11432, New York City, USA.

Ask for the printed 16-page catalogue "A List of Books by Joachim Joesten about the assassination of President Kennedy" in which the above books and pamphlets are described in detail.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

January 7, 1969 [redacted]

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Department in the attached transmitted to us an announcement of a publication written by Joachim Joesten regarding James Earl Ray and the King Assassination. The Department requests that we obtain a copy of this publication for their investigative file.

Bureau files indicate that Joesten was born in Germany in 1907, and naturalized as an American citizen in 1948. At hearings for his naturalization in 1947, Joesten reportedly identified himself as a "left-wing liberal" and a free-lance writer. He has written numerous books regarding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. In his books and other writings he has attacked President Lyndon B. Johnson, accusing Mr. Johnson of being involved in the President John F. Kennedy assassination. He has also bitterly attacked the FBI and the CIA. He currently resides in Germany and has been hospitalized in the past for mental illness.

It is noted that the announcement indicates the publication is available at a cost of $100. This was brought to the attention of the Dept., and they advised the publication should be obtained on a no cost basis only. Legat Bonn is being requested to discreetly determine if a copy of this publication is available on a no cost basis.

Long

REL:jms

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

December 31, 1968

SJP:DRO:ash
DJ 144-72-662
41-157-147

Stephen J. Pollak
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King

Attached herewith is a communication received by this Department. It may be that your Bureau has already received this information.

Although this appears on its face to be somewhat less than reliable information, I think our investigative files should contain a copy of the information in the attachment. Please secure such a copy.

Attachment

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

#41-157-147

Just published

$ 100 a copy
(one hundred US dollars)

The Greatest Police Fraud Ever

THE JAMES EARL RAY HOAX

Once again, the world is being fooled, deliberately and grossly, about the true background of a sensational murder and the real identity of the killer. And again - as in the closely related Kennedy Murder Fraud - the deception is wrought by the investigating authorities themselves.

Everything you have read in the papers about the way James Earl Ray allegedly escaped from prison, how he killed Dr. Martin Luther King, how he was identified as the slayer and how he was finally hunted down as a result of "crack international detective work" is false and fraudulent. The whole story is a hoax concocted by the FBI and executed with the help of other police authorities at home and abroad for the purpose of diverting attention from and shielding the real murderer of Dr. King, whose identity and whereabouts are well-known to the FBI.

Every aspect of this official fraud is thoroughly explored, and the whole gigantic swindle is ruthlessly exposed in the present report by

JOACHIM JOESTEN

the first of the Warren Report critics and the only writer who carried his exposure of the Kennedy Murder Fraud through to its bitter end. The report is based on a painstaking private investigation undertaken with the help of devoted friends in the USA, Canada, Britain and other countries concerned. Here are some of its highlights:

1 - The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was planned by a group of Southern politicians and businessmen associated with the Ku Klux Klan, the White Citizen and George Wallace's Alabama Independent Party. Its purpose was to strike fear into the hearts of the black people and to deprive them of effective leadership.

2 - New Orleans, where the plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy had been hatched (in part, anyway) was also the focal point of the conspiracy against Dr. King - a sinister fact ignored by the FBI and glossed over in the press, for obvious reasons.

3 - In the early planning stage - well over a year before Dr. King was shot at Memphis - contact was established between the plotters and James Earl Ray who at the time was still in inmate of the Missouri State Penitentiary. Ray, a convict with a long criminal record, drew attention by his willingness to do any kind of job expected of him for a substantial fee (agreement was reached on the basis of $ 12,000 to $ 25,000, according to performance.)

4 - Ray did not escape from prison; he was surreptitiously let out with the consent of the Warden who did as far as he dared to police authorities a false set of fingerprints [illegible]

[illegible] DEC 17 1969

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176